

## **RFP No. 14-053**

### **CHILDREN'S MOBILE CRISIS PROGRAM**

#### **SUMMARY**

The Frederick County Office for Children and Families (OCF) is a department within the Citizens Services Division of Frederick County Government. OCF seeks to create a more efficient and effective system of care for the children and families of Frederick County through:

- Developing service, family, community and financial partnerships
- Designing goal-directed services that are client-centered and family-focused
- Targeting resources to families with the greatest needs
- Implementing a monitoring system to determine client and cost outcomes

OCF is also the home of the Frederick County Local Management Board (LMB). The State of Maryland mandates that all counties have a LMB to oversee interagency services to children and families, to create a results-based system, and to minimize duplication of services.

The LMB guides OCF in governing, allocating resources, and monitoring and evaluating family services. The LMB is composed of private and public membership. The private members include private citizens, business leaders, private providers, and clergy. The public members are the State of Maryland Departments of Social Services, Juvenile Services, and Health and Mental Hygiene and the Frederick County Public Schools.

A program of the OCF and LMB, the Children's Mobile Crisis Program provides urgent mental health response to children, youth and families who are experiencing serious emotional, behavioral and/or psychiatric crises. The program seeks to stabilize child and family crises which could likely lead to hospitalization or an out of home placement through the provision of rapid assessment and intervention services provided in natural and community-based settings.

The Children's Mobile Crisis Program offers short-term mental health services to stabilize and support children, youth and families through a crisis period, and link them, as necessary, to longer term community based services. The Children's Mobile Crisis Program is intended to reduce the number of children/youth presenting to hospital emergency rooms in psychiatric crisis; divert inpatient/residential admissions and legal involvement whenever possible and appropriate; and to improve access to community based mental health services.